

# "J. Pierpont Morgan and I"

How the Tax Collector Has Lined  
Up the Financier as a "Partner" of  
a Poor Cottager

At Extreme  
Right:  
J. Pierpont  
Morgan.  
Another  
Glen Cove  
Objector.



Mrs. Sophie  
Trubish,  
Who Objects  
to Having the  
Assessment  
on Her Home  
at Glen Cove,  
Long Island,  
Increased.

It isn't everyone in the world that can refer blithely to "J. Pierpont Morgan and I."

Even down in Wall Street, where the banking house of Morgan stands stiff and dignified at the corner of Broad, only bank presidents and the heads of great corporations mention the name of Morgan above a whisper. Very few of them have the temerity to connect their own names with that of the greatest financier in the country to-day; and when they do—well, everyone sits up and pays them the most profound respect and consideration.

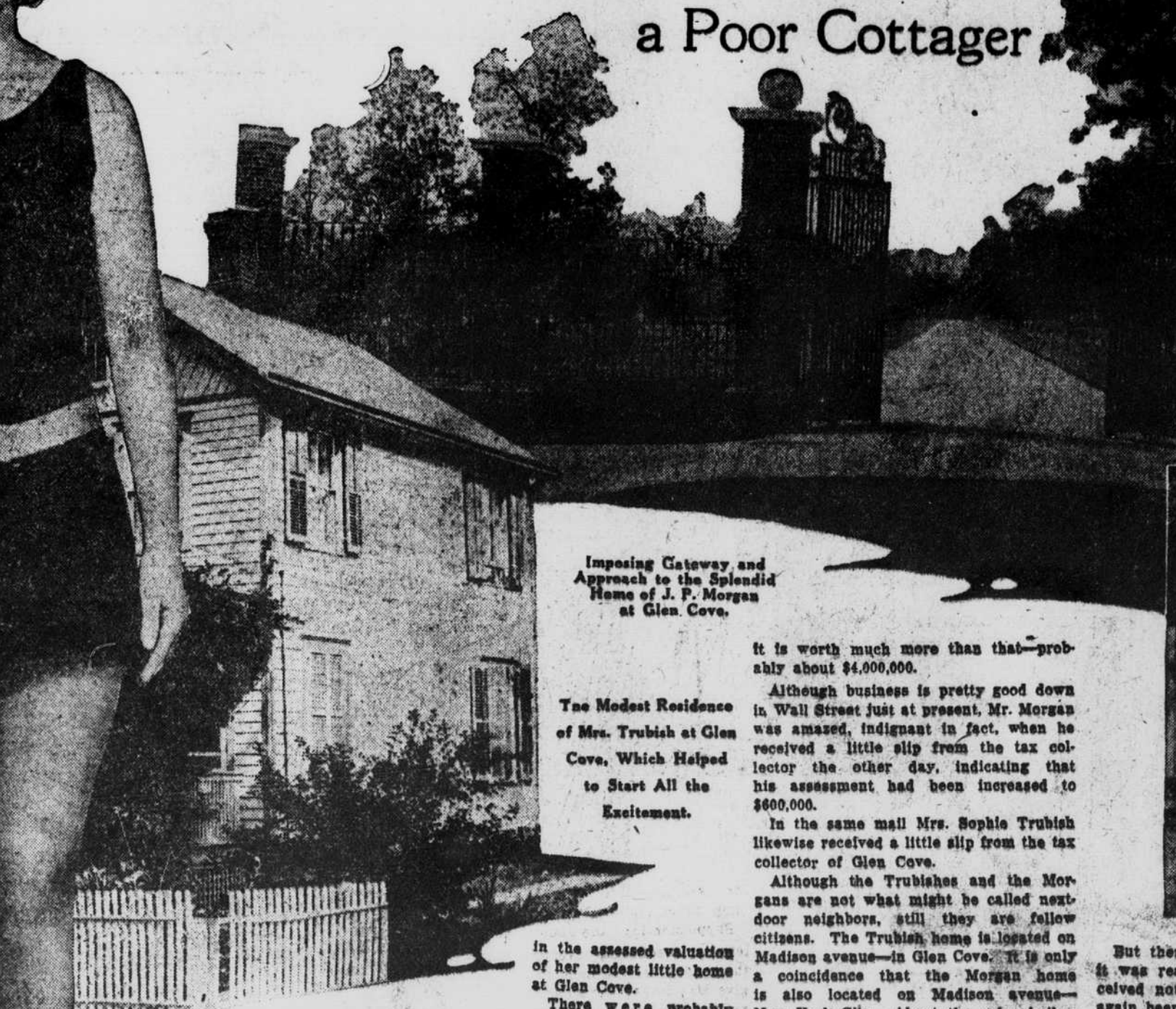
But that's in Wall Street. Glen Cove is something else again.

Glen Cove is down on Long Island, where they play polo and other exclusive games; where the Prince of Wales stays when he comes to America, and where Mr. Morgan and other rich persons live in the summertime, and where some who are not so rich live all the year around.

They have tax collectors at Glen Cove, just as they have undertakers; and tax collectors and undertakers have very little respect for individuals. All have to pay them tribute. Wherefore, tax collectors and undertakers are just about as popular as the smallpox, whether it be in Glen Cove or Oshkosh.

Of course, it's never possible to get the upper hand on the undertaker. But sometimes, very rarely, wise individuals have been able to even turn up their noses when they pass the tax collector on the street.

Something like that is happening to-day at Glen Cove; and you don't have to use an ear-trumpet in order to hear a very good-looking young woman talk about "J.



Imposing Gateway and  
Approach to the Splendid  
Home of J. P. Morgan  
at Glen Cove.

The Modest Residence  
of Mrs. Trubish at Glen  
Cove, Which Helped  
to Start All the  
Excitement.

In the assessed valuation  
of her modest little home  
at Glen Cove.  
There were probably  
others in the town who

it is worth much more than that—probably about \$4,000,000.

Although business is pretty good down in Wall Street just at present, Mr. Morgan was amazed, indignant in fact, when he received a little slip from the tax collector the other day, indicating that his assessment had been increased to \$600,000.

In the same mail Mrs. Sophie Trubish likewise received a little slip from the tax collector of Glen Cove.

Although the Trubishes and the Morgans are not what might be called next-door neighbors, still they are fellow citizens. The Trubish home is located on Madison avenue—in Glen Cove. It is only a coincidence that the Morgan home is also located on Madison avenue—New York City. About the only similarity between the Madison avenues in

But there's a limit to everything, and it was reached this year when they received notice that their assessment had again been jumped, this time to \$830, an increase of \$130 over what they considered the exorbitant rate of last year.

At almost the same moment the Board of Assessors at Glen Cove received two bitter protests. One came from J. Pierpont Morgan and the other from Sophie Trubish. Without saying so in these exact words, Mr. Morgan and Mrs. Trubish notified the Board that they would be darned if they would stand for the additional assessments.

As is usually the case in all big business matters, none of the interested parties cares to talk much—particularly for publication.

"There really isn't much to say," said Mrs. Trubish. "Mr. Morgan and I"—and a thousand big financiers in Wall Street would have turned green with envy at the nonchalant manner in which she said it—"have entered protests against the assessments levied against our properties. I don't know whether or not it will do any good, but we're going through with it."

"I can't understand why it is, but there seems to be a determination to discriminate against us. We did not protest when the assessment was increased last year. But we do object to having it made a continuous performance. Mr. Martin, who owns the property next door to ours, has more ground than we have. Yet his assessment has not been increased in two years, and it is lower than ours without the proposed increase."

"We have had no improvements on our street for a good many years, nor anything to justify such an increase. I understand that Mr. Morgan is protesting along the same lines. It certainly is a shame the way these politicians grind us down."

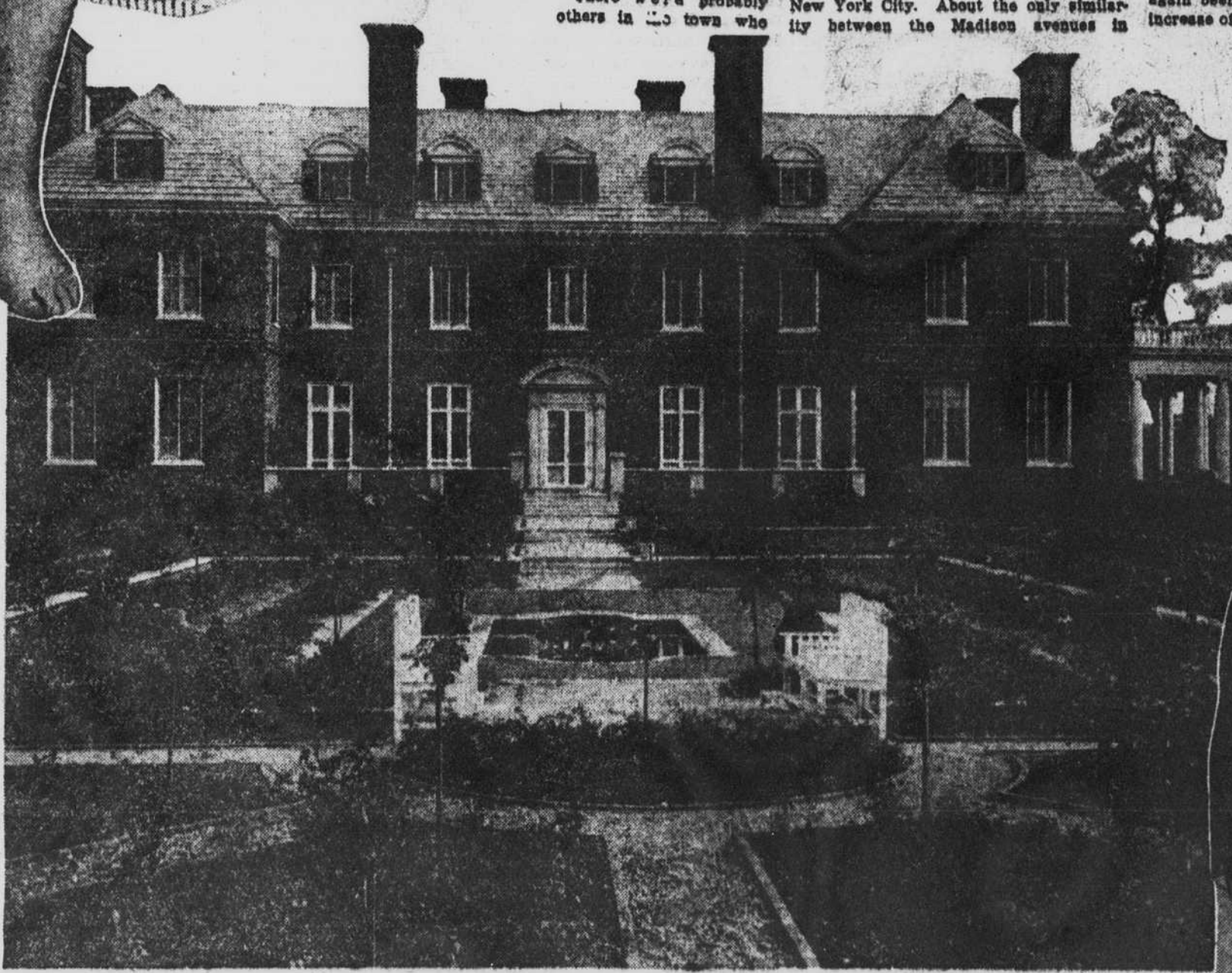
Mr. Morgan declined to discuss the matter. At the office of the Board of Assessors in Glen Cove, it was stated that his protest had been received. In it Mr. Morgan filed vigorous objections to having his assessment increased at all. He called attention to the fact that he had had several increases within the past few years and that he had about reached the limit that the property would stand. He called attention to the fact that assessments of other properties were much lower than on his own, and intimated that he was being discriminated against—in other words, he felt that because he was J. Pierpont Morgan, he was being asked to pay more taxes than he should.

So, it will be seen how similar are the cases of Morgan and Trubish. Both are satisfied that they are getting the worst of it—that they are being asked to pay more than they should pay. On the other hand:

"You can't please them all," said a member of the Board of Assessors at Glen Cove. "The rich think they are being made the goats in favor of the less rich; and the people in more humble circumstances think they are carrying the burden that the rich should bear."

And just to show that other rich people have their troubles about taxes, he called attention to the fact that the Long Island estates of the late William K. Vanderbilt, the late Frederick G. Bourne and of Miss Maude Adams, the famous actress, now retired, are to be seized and sold on October 13 unless the taxes are paid. The Vanderbilt estate, "Idle Hour," which was inherited by Harold S. Vanderbilt, owes \$17,123 taxes, because of an uncompleted sale of the property to a syndicate. The Bourne estate was placed on the unpaid list because of \$16,935 taxes due. Miss Adams owes a trifling \$143 which she has neglected to pay.

The tax collectors are guessing. But it's pretty hard to beat a combination like "J. Pierpont Morgan and I."



The Magnificent Estate of J. Pierpont Morgan at Glen Cove, with its Sunken roof. Wonderful Gardens and Costly Surroundings.

Pierpont Morgan and I" in a way that would make the lambs in Wall Street shiver in their boots.

For J. Pierpont Morgan and this young woman are partners, as it were, associates in a financial undertaking, with mutual property rights. They have teamed together, in a way, for their own protection, and against the enemy of mankind, the tax collector.

This individual, acting in concert with the Board of Assessors, of Glen Cove, has notified J. Pierpont Morgan of an increase of \$100,000 in the assessed valuation of his four-million-dollar residence at Glen Cove.

At the same time, he notified Mrs. Sophie Trubish of an increase of \$130

had their valuations increased; but Morgan and Trubish were the only ones who have filed protests. Although they have never met, they are working together; and it is not beyond the realm of possibility that they may yet pool their issues against the common enemy.

Mr. Morgan's house is located in that part of Glen Cove known as Matinecock Point. It is a great pile of marble and red brick and concrete, set in the center of a twenty-five-acre plot that runs out into the ocean with water on three sides, forming a perfect peninsula. In England it would be called a castle.

For quite a few years, Mr. Morgan has paid taxes on this piece of property on an assessed valuation of \$500,000. Of course

Glen Cove and in Manhattan is that both are streets.

It is a neat, well-kept, scrupulously clean little place where Mrs. Trubish and her husband James, have lived for six years. Trubish works in a garage and makes fair wages, which Mrs. Trubish handles most judiciously.

It was only a couple of years ago that the assessed valuation on their property was \$600. They paid taxes at that rate, and considered they had no cause for complaint. Last year they were somewhat pained when they received notice that the assessment against their home had been increased to \$700. But they accepted. What's a few dollars between friends?



J. Pierpont  
Morgan  
Snapped  
at New  
London  
While  
He Was  
Attending  
the Yale-  
Harvard  
Boat  
Race.